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CRICKHOWELL RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT 1958

DR. J. TATE, MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

R. A. JACKSON, SURVEYOR & PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

CRICKHOWELL RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.COUNCILLORS.PARISH.

H.J. McIntosh. (Chairman).	Llanelly. (Clydach Ward).
J. Mills Price. (Vice-Chairman).	Cwmdu.
O.H. Williams, J.P.	Cwmdu. (Bwlch Ward).
Col. P. Fisher, J.P.	Llangenny. (Glangrwyney Ward)
Rev. J.M. Evans.	Llangenny.
L.J. Lewis, J.P.	Llangattock.
B. Rees.	Llangattock.
R.G. Jones.	Crickhowell.
Miss M.A. Haywood.	Crickhowell.
E. Davies.	Llanbedr.
W.H. Paske.	Llanelly. (Gilwern Ward).
G. Bush.	Llanelly. (Gilwern Ward).
A. Williams.	Llanelly. (Darenfelen Ward).
Mrs. G.M. Llewelyn.	Llangynidr.
C.S. Farr.	Llangynidr.
Col. C.E. Beckwith.	Partrishow.

OFFICIALS OF THE CRICKHOWELL RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Medical Officer of Health.	J. Tate, M.B., B.Ch., M.R.C.P., D.P.H.
Clerk & Chief Financial Officer.	F. Foster.
Surveyor & Public Health Inspector.	R.A. Jackson, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H., Cert. (Meat & Foods).
Assistant to the Clerk.	A.M. Brace.
Assistant Rating Officer.	V.M.T. Leslie.
Collector.	E.J. Hennessy.
Housing Inspector.	M.A. Thomas.

To the Chairman and Members of
the Crickhowell Rural District Council.

Gentlemen and Ladies,

I have the honour to present the Annual
Report on the Sanitary circumstances of the district,
the health of the people and the work of the Public
Health Department, during the year 1958.

I wish to tender my thanks to the Members
of the Council for their helpful consideration and
co-operation in all matters affecting Public Health.
Also, the Officers of the Council for their help
in all matters appertaining to the duties of the
Health Department.

I am,

Mr. Chairman and Members,

Your obedient Servant,

J. TATE.

M.B., B.Ch., M.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

<u>Population:-</u>	(Registrar General's Estimate)	8,000.
<u>Number of Parishes:-</u>		8.
<u>Acreage:-</u>	According to 1951 census.	46,140 acres.
<u>Rateable Value as at 1st April, 1958.</u>		£51,524.
<u>Product of a Penny Rate:-</u>	Actual 1957/58.	£190.10.11d.
	Estimated 1958/59.	£200. 0. 0d.
<u>Rate in the Pound:-</u>	1957/58.	£1.0.0d.
	1958/59.	£1.1.6d.
<u>Water Rate:-</u>	3/- in the £ with a minimum of £1.10.0d. per annum.	
<u>Number of Dwellings (including farms):-</u>		2442.
<u>Number of Council Houses (included in above figure):-</u>		337.

Crickhowell is a large District in South Breconshire, mainly mountainous in character, with an acreage of 46,140 acres.

The District is divided into eight Parishes, Crickhowell, Llangattock, Cwmdru, Llangenny, Llangynidr, Llanbedr and Partrishow, which are mainly agricultural, and Llanelltydd which is mainly industrial. In the agricultural area the workers are employed mainly in farm work, forestry and quarrying. In the industrial area, the workers are employed mainly in adjacent coalmines in North Monmouthshire and in various factories in Brynmawr and North Monmouthshire, and Elvicta Handtools factory in Crickhowell.

The re-housing of families from unfit dwellings continues but the re-housing of persons on the ordinary housing list has now almost ceased as this type of re-housing carries no Government subsidy aid and it is only when an existing Council house is vacated that this category can be dealt with.

Tenants for new houses are selected by means of a Points Scheme adopted by the Council so as to allocate houses to families in the greatest need, conditions of existing accommodation, overcrowding and health circumstances, all rating for "points award".

When new houses are allocated to applicants their old houses are inspected with a view to their future use. A number of these houses then have a Demolition or Closing Order made on them, if they are unfit for human habitation.

HOUSING - DEMOLITION AND CLOSING ORDERS.

Unfit houses closed or demolished under the Housing Act, 1957.	8.
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The Aberbaiden ex-Army Camp has been demolished and the site cleared, and at Danyparc ex-Army Camp only six families remain in occupation.

Number of applicants for Council Houses 161
on 1st January, 1958.

Number of applicants remaining on the 145
Council's list 31st December, 1958.

Total number of post-war Council Houses 337
1st January, 1959.

Number of Council Houses completed during 18
the year 1958.

Number of Council Houses under construction 12
on 31st December, 1958.

Number of Private Houses completed during 3
the year 1958.

School Medical Service, Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics, and the provision of school meals are carried out by the County Council.

The health of the District during the year has, on the whole, been good. There has been an absence of any serious outbreaks of epidemic diseases. The majority of the deaths during the year were in the higher age groups. The incidence of Pulmonary Tuberculosis has been low, cases occurring have been adequately and quickly dealt with by the Chest Physicians at their Clinics at Brecon and Pontllanfraith.

There have been no outbreaks of food poisoning during the year. Inspections have been carried out from time to time of various food handling stores, bake-houses, licensed premises and shops selling ice-cream in accordance with the Regulations. Minor defects have been pointed out and corrected. It has not been necessary to take any legal proceedings under the Byelaws, or under the Food Hygiene Regulations 1955.

National Assistance Act, 1948, Section 47.

No action has been necessary under this Section during the year 1958.

SECTION A.V I T A L S T A T I S T I C S.

<u>Population:-</u>	(Registrar General's Estimate)				8,000
<u>Total Births:-</u>	Male	63	Female	59	Total = 122
<u>Total Deaths:-</u>	Male	42	Female	35	Total = 77
<u>Still Births:-</u>	Male	2	Female	-	Total = 2
<u>Crude Birth Rate:-</u>					= 15.25
<u>Crude Death Rate:-</u>					= 9.62
<u>Infantile Mortality Rate:-</u>	(2 deaths)				= 16.39
<u>Transferable Deaths:-</u>	Inward 19 Outward 2				
<u>Comparability Factors:-</u>	Births 1.11		Deaths 1.02		

EXTRACT FROM VITAL STATISTICS.DEATHS.

<u>Causes.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>
All Causes.	42	35
1. Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	1	0
2. Tuberculosis (Other Form)	0	0
3. Syphilitic.	0	0
4. Diphtheria.	0	0
5. Whooping Cough.	0	0
6. Meningococcal Infection.	0	0
7. Acute Poliomyelitis.	0	0
8. Measles.	0	0
9. Other infective and Parasitic Diseases.	0	0
10. Malignant Neoplasm, stomach.	0	3
11. Malignant Neoplasm, lung, bronchus.	4	0
12. Malignant Neoplasm, breast.	0	1
13. Malignant Neoplasm, uterus.	0	0
14. Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms.	9	3
15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia.	0	0
16. Diabetes.	0	0
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system.	6	6
18. Coronary disease, angina.	8	5
19. Hypertension with heart disease.	0	1
20. Other heart disease.	4	10
21. Other circulatory disease.	1	0
22. Influenza.	1	0
23. Pneumonia.	3	1
24. Bronchitis.	2	0
25. Other diseases of respiratory system.	0	0
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum.	0	0
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea.	0	0
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis.	1	1
29. Hyperplasia of prostate.	0	0
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion.	0	0
31. Congenital malformations.	0	0
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases.	0	0
33. Motor vehicle accidents.	1	0
34. All other accidents.	1	0
35. Suicide.	0	0
36. Homicides and operations of war.	0	0

SECTION B.

Laboratory Facilities	= Public Health Laboratory, Clytha Square, Newport, Mon.
Ambulance Facilities	= Breconshire County Council Ambulance stationed at Crickhowell.
Nursing in the Home	= Breconshire County Council.
Clinics and Centres	= Welsh Regional Hospital Board and North Monmouthshire Management Committee, War Memorial Hospital, Crickhowell. School Clinic, Market Hall, Crickhowell.

SECTION C.INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Notifications. The following cases, other than Tuberculosis, were notified during the year 1958:-

<u>Diseases.</u>	<u>Number of Cases.</u>
Measles.	208
Scarlet Fever.	26
Whooping Cough.	10
Erysipelas.	2
Paratyphoid.	1
Pneumonia.	1

Tuberculosis. A schedule on new cases and removals from the Register is given below.

<u>New Cases.</u>				<u>Removals from Register.</u>			
Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
2	0	0	0	8	4	1	1

Number of Cases remaining on Register 31st December, 1958.

Respiratory.			Non-Respiratory.		
M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
17	17	34	1	2	3

SCHOOLS. No schools were closed during the year 1958, in consequence of infectious diseases.

SECTION D.SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.W A T E R.SHORTAGE.

The year was exceptionally wet and the only period of shortage was between the 25th and 27th April on the Clydach Quarry Main Road Supply, and between the 4th and 7th May for the Crickhowell area.

GENERAL.

Maintenance of all springs, reservoirs and pipelines continued, with extensions of mains to various new developments and individual connections to new and old properties as required.

REGROUPING OF WATER UNDERTAKINGS.

The South East Breconshire Water Board was formed and material and plans are being collected to hand over to the Board on the 1st April, 1959.

LLANGYNIDR (EMERGENCY SUPPLIES).

The Newport watermain was shut down for a short period in July for repair work and Llangynidr Village was re-connected to the old springs for this period.

PRIVATE SPRINGS.

Samples of water were taken for bacteriological examination from private springs to be harnessed for private water supplies.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION REPORTS.Public Piped Supplies.

Supply.	Samples Taken.	Satisfactory.	Poor.	Unsatisfactory.
Clydach, (Quarry Main Road)	1	1		
Clydach. (Hafod).	1	1		
Crickhowell. (Lower Reservoir).	1	1		
Crickhowell. (Upper Reservoir).	1	1		
Cwmdu. (Private)	1	1		
Gilwern. (Brunant & Maesgwartha)	1			1
Gilwern. (Hydram)	1		1	
Llanbedr.	1	1		

Supply.	Samples Taken.	Satisfactory.	Poor.	Unsatisfactory.
Llangattock. (Ffawyddog)	1	1		
Llangattock. (Tyle)	1	1		
Llangattock. (Hillside)	1	1		
Llangenny. (Cwm Cegr)	2	2		
Tretower.	1	1		

There is no evidence of any contamination from a human source, and it would appear that unsatisfactory bacteriological reports are due to animal contamination of surface water gaining access to spring water in the collection areas.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

With the exception of Crickhowell Sewerage Scheme, which has received grant approval sometime ago, all other schemes are at present shelved because of the financial restriction policy of the Government.

The Crickhowell scheme is now being pressed, and detailed plans have been submitted for planning approval.

SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANTS.

Regular maintenance and sludge removal, by pumping with the Wickhan Towed Diesel Pump, has been carried out at the ten treatment plants situated at the following Housing Estates:-

Penallt, Penllwyn, Danycoed (3 tanks), Glangrwyney, Llangenny, St. Michael's Close, Groesffordd, Glasfryn Terrace.

Daily maintenance has been given to the four public sewage plants and the eleven electrically operated sewage pumps at Crickhowell and Gilwern.

The pumps have been given regular inspection by the Insurance Company Inspectors and their reports have been satisfactory.

One of the two twin Wallwin Pumps at the Ex-American Hospital pump house was showing signs of wear, after 15 years service, and was returned for complete overhaul with certain renewals.

PUBLIC CLEANSING - REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

The general scavenging service of the area continues to function satisfactorily on the following programme:-

MONDAY - Gilwern, Clydach, Llanelly Hill.
TUESDAY - Crickhowell, Llangattock.
WEDNESDAY - Llanbedr, Glangrwyney, Llangenny, Tretower,
 Cwmdu, Llangynidr, Bwlch.
THURSDAY - Gilwern, Clydach, Llanelly Hill.
FRIDAY - Crickhowell, Llangattock.

During the twelve months the lorry travelled 8,000 miles and carried away 9,000 cubic yards of refuse.

The Gilwern refuse tip continues to be used on the narrow heading towards Gilwern until such time as the adjacent Cottages are vacated and the larger area towards Brynmawr maybe used without causing a nuisance.

The Crickhowell refuse tip is filling up rapidly and an alternative site will be required within the next year or two.

R O D E N T C O N T R O L .

PEST ACT, 1950. A full time Rodent Operator is employed by the Council.

Infestation treatments carried out during the year:-

Private Dwellings.....	146
Business Premises.....	5
Hospital.....	1
Schools.....	3
Sewerage Systems.....	Regular Treatment.
Refuse Tips.....	" "
Brooks in Villages.....	" "
Farms in the area surveyed and treated.	

The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food notified the Council that no more contracts for rodent control work would be accepted after 31st March, 1959. This Council therefore notified by Press and by circular letter, to the 250 farms in the area, the duty of the Farmer to clear his premises of infestation and offering an annual treatment control contract.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 & 1948.

Details of the routine inspection at the fifteen factories in the area are contained on separate Ministry forms.

FOOD AND DRUGS.FOOD CONDEMNED AND VOLUNTARILY SURRENDERED.

The following goods, were on inspection, found to be unfit and were voluntarily surrendered:-

22 tins Tomatoes.
 50 tins Meat.
 10 tins Soup.
 10 tins Beans.
 12 tins Peaches.
 5 tins Pears.
 3 tins Salmon.
 6 tins Milk.
 2 tins Cherries.
 9 tins Pineapple Pieces.
 7 tins Fruit Cocktail.
 4 tins Sausages.
 5 tins Sardines.
 4 tins Apricots.
 3 tins Pineapples.
 3 tins Pilchards.
 8 tins Peas.
 5 tins Herring Roes.
 7 tins Plums.
 2 tins Raspberries.
 4 tins Rice Pudding.
 3 tins Marmalade.
 1 tin Shrimps.
 1 tin Cat Food.
 1 tin Beetroot.
 1 tin Oranges.
 1 tin Grapefruit.
 1 jar Jiffi Jelly.
 64½ lbs Beef.
 ½ lb Lard.

MILK.

Persons registered as Retail Distributors of Milk purchased in bulk. 10

Number of Retail Distributors of Milk licensed to sell designated milk. 10

Samples of milk taken during the year, from the stock on the delivery vans of the above Retailers, have all given satisfactory results for keeping quality and, where applicable, negative results to tuberculosis.

MEAT INSPECTION.

Slaughtering took place on twenty four occasions at the slaughterhouse of Mr. J. Price, High Street, Crickhowell, during the year 1958.

The slaughterhouse is licensed for six monthly periods on the condition that the amount of slaughtering does not increase.

The following animal carcasses were inspected:-

181 Lambs.
 15 Beasts.
 1 Sheep.

and 25 lbs of offal was condemned as being unfit for human consumption.

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole
or part.

	Cattle Excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed (if known)	15	-	-	182	-
Number inspected.	15	-	-	182	-
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis & Cysticerci.</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	1	-	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci.	6.6%	-	-	-	-
<u>Tuberculosis</u>	N I L.				
<u>Cysticercosis</u>	N I L.				

SURVEYS AND INSPECTIONS.

The following is a summary of the inspections carried out during the year 1958:-

Detailed house inspections.....	579
Public Health Acts.....	471
Food.....	23
Factories.....	2
Complaints investigated.....	65
Scavenging investigations.....	13
Drainage investigations.....	138
Water supply investigations.....	78

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.

During the year grants were approved in fourteen cases totalling £4,361.0.0.

This brought the total number of grants approved by this Council at the 31st December, 1958 to eighty at a cost of £21,745.0.0.

PLANNING AND BYELAW APPLICATIONS.

For the twelve months ending 31st December 1958.

97 Applications for Byelaw approval.

89 Applications for Planning approval.

NOTICES SERVED.

Informal.		Statutory.	
Served.	Complied with.	Served.	Complied with.
32	30	1	-